REMARKS

Applicants have carefully reviewed the Office Action dated February 11, 2003. Applicants have amended Claims 5-18 to more clearly point out the present inventive concept. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Regarding Claims 5, 6, 11, 12, 13, and 18, rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,452,692, *Yacoub*, this rejection is respectfully traversed as follows.

In Claims 5 and 12 of the present application as amended, the print job is configured for printing by generating a print job which is segmented into discreet job stacks by defining job stacks for each engine that will print a defined portion of the print job. See, e.g., Figure 36 and the accompanying detailed description on p.61 of the Specification as filed. Further, upon detection of an error *during* printing, only the unprinted or remainder of the defined job stack is rerouted.

By contrast, *Yacoub* does not segment the print job before sending it from a virtual printer at the client work station to a printer server via the printing network where the server evaluates print job preferences such as quality and speed that are entered by the user. The server then determines or selects an appropriate printer close to the work station on which the print job will be printed. Thus, *Yacoub* merely discloses spooling the print job to the server after the user's print job preferences are selected and therefore this reference cannot perform the segmenting step as required in Applicants' Claims 5 and 12, as amended.

Further, *Yacoub* does not disclose sending the *remainder* of a print job to another printer; rather, the entire print job is terminated, respooled and sent to another printer. See Col. 3, lines 31-32 and Col. 8, lines 3-4. *See also* Figure 3 and Col. 7, lines 13-62. *See also*, Col. 16, lines 12-19 which is Claim 1 in the *Yacoub* reference, or *see also* Col. 13, lines 1-4 and the Abstract, lines 7-10. Thus, *Yacoub* cannot perform the rerouting step because it lacks the advantages of Applicants' invention of not having to terminate the print job and start over, which advantage saves time and resources.

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For the foregoing reasons, *Yacoub* does not anticipate Claims 5 and 12, as amended and Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of this rejection.

Regarding Claims 7-10 and 14-17, rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Yacoub* in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,845,057, (*Takeda et al.*), this rejection is respectfully traversed as follows.

Regarding Claims 7-10 and 14-17 the Examiner is correct that *Yacoub* "does not clearly disclose attaching a separator page to the remainder of the print job." Applicants respectfully point out that this statement mentions *two* aspects not disclosed in *Yacoub* - the use of *a separator page and* the feature of attaching the separator page to *the remainder* of the print job. However, while these deficiencies of *Yacoub* might be overcome by the suggestions of *Takeda*, the latter reference, like *Yacoub*, fails to teach the segmenting step or job stacking device now included in Applicants' amended Claims 5 and 12 , the limitations of which are included in the corresponding dependent Claims 7-10 or 14-17.

In *Takeda* "a print-processing step of executing print-processing of the print image data in accordance with the print instruction data received by the receiving step" is performed following receiving the print instruction data (*see* Col. 1, lines 57-61). However, there is no segmenting step performed nor is there any disclosure of segmenting in the processing step. A document managing portion 402 (Figure 2) stores received document data and generates managing data thereof which is stored in a document managing table. (*See* Col. 2, lines 23-28; Figure 12, Col. 10, lines 54 to Col. 11, line 46; and Col. 14, lines 53-65). During printing, the printing portion prints the document data as described in Col. 6, lines 3-4.

Thus, *Takeda* also fails to teach the segmenting step of Claims 5 and 12 as amended and Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of this rejection as to Claims 7-10 and 14-17. Moreover, as to the dependent Claims 6-10 and 13-18 which include the respective limitations of the corresponding base Claims 5 and 12, as amended, which have been shown hereinabove to be not anticipated and not rendered obvious by either the *Yacoub* or the *Takeda* reference alone or in combination. Applicants
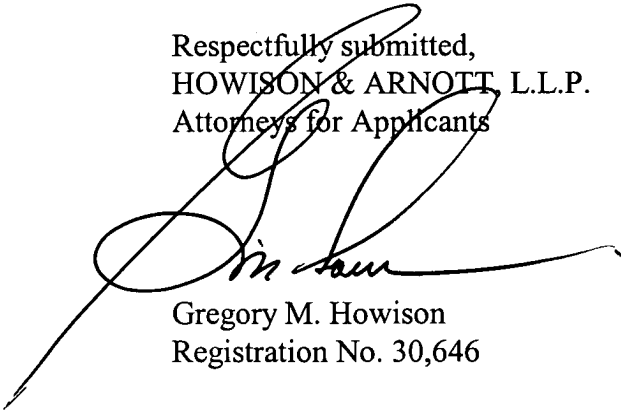
therefore respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejections as to all of the Claims 5-18 in the present application.

Applicants have now made an earnest attempt in order to place this case in condition for allowance. For the reasons stated above, Applicants respectfully request full allowance of the claims as amended. Please charge any additional fees or deficiencies in fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-0780/TRSY-24,657 of HOWISON & ARNOTT, L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,
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